

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-12, 14, 16-24, 26 and 28-32 are pending in the application, and all the claims are rejected.

Claims 1, 11 and 21 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 4, 14 and 26, respectively. Claims 2, 4, 12, 14, 24 and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

No new matter is added. Therefore, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1, 6-11, 16-23 and 28-32 will be pending in the application.

II. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

A. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 10-12, 14, 16, 20-24, 26, 28 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Prakash et al. (U.S Patent No. 6,444,343).

B. Claims 7-9, 17-19 and 29-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Prakash.

Applicants respectfully traverse the §§ 102 and 103 rejections, at least for the following reasons.

Present claims 1, 11 and 21 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 4, 14 and 26, respectively. Therefore, amended claims 1, 11 and 21 include the limitation that the organic compound, different from the liquid organic fuel, is “at least one of sugars, alcohols and amines.”

In contrast, Prakash teaches the use of an “ammonium, potassium, or sodium salt of a- completely fluorinated aliphatic monocarboxylic acids” as surfactants. Applicants respectfully submit that an ammonium salt of an organic compound is different from an amine, the ammonium salt consisting of, for example, a charged NH_4^+ cation. Therefore, there is no motivation to substitute an ammonium salt of a carboxylic acid for an amine. In view of the above, Prakash does not teach each and every element of amended claims 1, 11 and 21.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 11 and 21 are patentable over Prakash, and all claims dependent therefrom are also patentable over Prakash, at least by virtue of their dependence from claims 1, 11 and 21. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections based on Prakash.

Conclusion

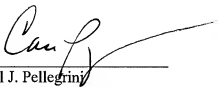
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/519,550

Attorney Docket No.: Q85348

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 15, 2009